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*Ata Am*

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY *Cindy Chickara*

DATE *December 28, 2001*

**PATENT  
BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re:	Patent Application of	:	
	Haruo Kodama <i>et al.</i>	:	Group Art Unit: 3745
Appln. No.:	09/652,090	:	
Conf. No.:	2837	:	Examiner: Frank D. Lopez
Filed:	August 31, 2000	:	Attorney Docket
For:	HYDRAULIC DRIVE APPARATUS	:	No. 9369-51US
		:	(T37-124467M/TH)

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**RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

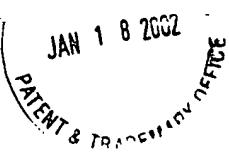
In response to the Office Action mailed December 1, 2001 (Paper No. 10), concerning the above-identified application, the applicants make the following election.

The Examiner has indicated that the application contains claims directed to nine patentably distinct species, as identified by Fig. 1 (species I), Fig. 4 (species II), Fig. 7 (species III), Fig. 8 (species IV), Fig. 9 (species V), Fig. 11 (species VI), Fig. 12 (species VII), Fig. 13 (species VIII) and Fig. 14 (species IX).

Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. §121, the Examiner has required the applicant to elect a single species for prosecution on the merits. The Examiner admits that claims 1-4 are generic to species I, II, IV, V and VII; claims 9-11 are generic to species III, IV and V; claims 12, 15, 16 and 18 are generic to species IV and V; claims 19 and 20 are generic to species VI, VII, VIII and IX; claims 21 and 27 are generic to species VI and VII; and claims 22, 25 and 26 are generic to species VIII and IX.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.143, applicant hereby elects Fig. 1, without traverse. Claims 1-5 read on Fig. 1.

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It is noted that the Examiner did not include Figs. 2 and 3 in the species election.

It is respectfully submitted that Figs. 2 and 3 should be included with the species of Fig. 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application, including claims 1-36, is in condition for substantive consideration, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HARUO KODAMA *et al.*

Dec. 28, 2001 (Date) By: [Signature] Reg. No. 29,546  
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Enclosure

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